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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Shotaro Takemoto, et al.      **Examiner:** Ryan J. Severson  
**Serial No:** 10/724,814      **Art Unit:** 3731  
**Filed:** December 1, 2003      **Docket:** 16224Z  
**For:** ENDOSCOPIC SUTURING      **Dated:** June 26, 2007  
**Conf. No.:** 5568

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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E.S. 7/5/2007

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

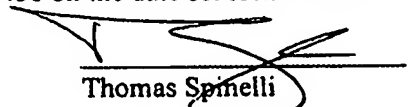
In response to the Official Action dated March 28, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Dated: June 25, 2007

  
Thomas Spinelli